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#### **HaKOL Monthly Publication**

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HaKol is produced through a partnership of Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Heska Amuna Synagogue, Temple Beth El, and Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School.

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# **August 2023** Community Calendar

KEY: HA = Heska Amuna, JCOR = Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, KJA = Knoxville Jewish Alliance, KJDS = Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School, JFS = Jewish Family Services, TBE = Temple Beth El

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 1**

8:00P Minyan - HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2**

#### Tu B'Av

12:00P Executive Mifgash Manhigim -

3:00P Modern Hebrew - HA 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 3**

10:00A Torah Study - TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

8:19P Candle Lighting 4:30P JFS Sherrill Hills Shabbat Service - KIA 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA 7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 5**

9:18P Havdalah 9:45A Traditional Shabbat Service – HA 10:00A Shabbat Service - JCOR 10:30A Library Minyan - HA 7:00P BBYO & BBYO Connect Back-to-School Bash - KJA

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**

10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA 1:00P Pickleball at the J - KJA 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah – HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **MONDAY. AUGUST 7**

5:00P Back to School Party - KJDS

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 8**

1st Day of School - KJDS 8:00P Minyan - HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9**

3:00P Modern Hebrew - HA 6:30P Board Mifgash Manhigim - TBE 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 10**

10:00A Torah Study - TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR 7:00P Board Meeting - HA

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

8:12P Candle Lighting 5:00P Community Shabbat at the Pool 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 12**

9:10P Havdalah 10:00A Shabbat Service - ICOR 10:00A Contemporary Shabbat Service w Rabbi Shush - HA

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

1:00P Mah Jong at the Pool – KJA & Hadassah 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah - HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **MONDAY, AUGUST 14**

11:30A JFS Committee Meeting - KJA

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15**

7:00P Board Meeting - KJCFF 7:30P Book Club – Hadassah 8:00P Minyan - HA

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

3:00P Modern Hebrew - HA 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA 7:00P Book Club - JCOR 7:00P Board Meeting - Hadassah

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 17**

10:00A Torah Study - TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18 8:04P Candle Lighting 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA 7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 19**

9:01P Havdalah 9:45A Traditional Shabbat Service - HA 10:00A Shabbat Service - ICOR 10:30A Maya Sadovnik Bat Mitzvah - TBE

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 20**

10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA 1:00P Pickleball at the J - KJA 3:00P MemberSHIP Cruise Event -Hadassah 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah - HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **TUESDAY. AUGUST 22**

8:00P Minyan - HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23**

3:00P Modern Hebrew - HA 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 24**

10:00A Torah Study - TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 25**

7:55P Candle Lighting 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA 7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26**

8:51P Havdalah 10:00A Shabbat Service - ICOR 10:00A Contemporary Shabbat Service w Rabbi Shush - HA

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 27**

10:00A Sisterhood Meeting – TBE 1:00P Mah Jong at the Pool - KJA & 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah - HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 29**

8:00P Minyan - HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30**

3:00P Modern Hebrew - HA 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 31**

10:00A Torah Study – TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR



# September 2023 Community Calendar

KEY: HA = Heska Amuna, JCOR = Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, KJA = Knoxville Jewish Alliance, KJDS = Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School, JFS = Jewish Family Services, TBE = Temple Beth El

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

7:45P Candle Lighting 4:30P JFS Sherrill Hills Shabbat Service – KJA 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA 7:00P Shabbat Service – TBE

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

8:41P Havdalah 9:45A Traditional Shabbat Service – HA 10:00A Shabbat Service – JCOR 10:30A Library Minyan – HA

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

12:00P Unveiling for Howard Pollio – HA 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah – HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 Labor Day**

11:00A-7:00P Last Day of Pool/Free to All – KJA

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

8:00P Minyan - HA

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

12:00P Executive Mifgash Manhigim – TBE 3:00P Modern Hebrew – HA 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

10:00A Torah Study – TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

7:35P Candle Lighting 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA 7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

8:30P Havdalah 9:45A Shabbat Service 10:00A Shabbat Service - JCOR 10:00A-2:00P Pooch Plunge - KJA

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

2:00-5:00P Fall Bash at Deep Well Farm – KJDS & PJ Library 3:00P Oy Vey I Forgot Again! – Hadassah 7:30P Reading Hebrew w/Jonah - HA 7:30P Beginning Hebrew - HA

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

6:30P Pre-Rosh Hashanah Challah Bake – Chabad 8:00P Minyan – HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

6:30P Board Mifgash Manhigim - TBE 6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

10:00A Torah Study – TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

#### **Erev Rosh Hashanah**

7:25P Candle Lighting
For HHD Schedules See Box Below

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

#### Rosh Hashanah 5784

8:20P Candle Lighting
For HHD Schedules See Box Below

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

#### Rosh Hashanah II

8:19P Havdalah For HHD Schedules See Box Below

#### **TUESDAY. SEPTEMBER 19**

7:30P Book Club – Hadassah 8:00P Minyan – HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA 7:00P Book Club – JCOR 7:00P Board Meeting - Hadassah

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

10:00A Torah Study – TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7:15P Candle Lighting 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA 7:00P Shabbat Service – TBE

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

8:10P Havdalah

9:45A Shabbat Service – HA 10:00A Shabbat Service – JCOR

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

#### **Erev Yom Kippur**

7:12P Candle Lighting
For HHD Schedules See Box Below

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

#### Yom Kippur

8:07P Havdalah For HHD Schedules See Box Below

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

8:00P Minyan – HA

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

10:00A Torah Study – TBE 12:30P Conversational Hebrew - JCOR

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

#### **Erev Sukkot**

7:04P Candle Lighting 6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA 7:00P Shabbat Service – TBE

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

#### Sukkot

7:59P Candle Lighting 9:45A Shabbat Service – HA 10:00A Shabbat Service – JCOR



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# High Holy Day Schedule Information

Heska Amuna Synagogue - Page 15 Temple Beth El - visit tbeknox.org Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge - Page 34



# L' SHANA TOVAH

from

All the Harvey and Marilyn Liberman family near and far

We want to wish all of our friends a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year.
L'Shana Tova Tikatevu!

Heidi and Barry Allen of Nashville

# Shannah Tovah

from
Kim, Stephen,
Nathan, Arielle,
& Tiffanie
Rosen

Wishing the entire Knoxville
Jewish community
L'Shana Tova U'Metukah, a sweet New Year.

Temple Beth El

Best wishes for a happy and healthy
New Year!

Renee' Hyatt & Paul Erwin

# **Shana Tovah**

from

Abraham & Judy Brietstein and Family

Wishing a good, sweet year to our new community.
Thank you for making us feel so welcome!

Janet & George Iversen

# Wishing you a joyful & sweet new year!

Jill, Douglas, Brian & Andrew Weinstein

Warmest wishes
for
a wonderful
New Year

from

Mark & Peggy Littmann

Beth, James, Liam & Adele McGinnis

Owen, Machiko & Lia Littmann



# L'Shana Tova!

**Rosalie and Stephen Nagler** 

With all good wishes,

Pessa, Marla, Bart, Joel, & Will Brody

Shanah Tova, **Happy New Year** 5784

from

**PJ Library Knoxville** 

Look for our family **Shul Boxes** with books and quiet toys for children during services!

May this New Year be sweet, healthy, & Happpy. L'Shanah **Tovah** 

from

The Johnson Family Wes, Helene, Nathan & Noah

May you be inscribed & sealed for a good year.

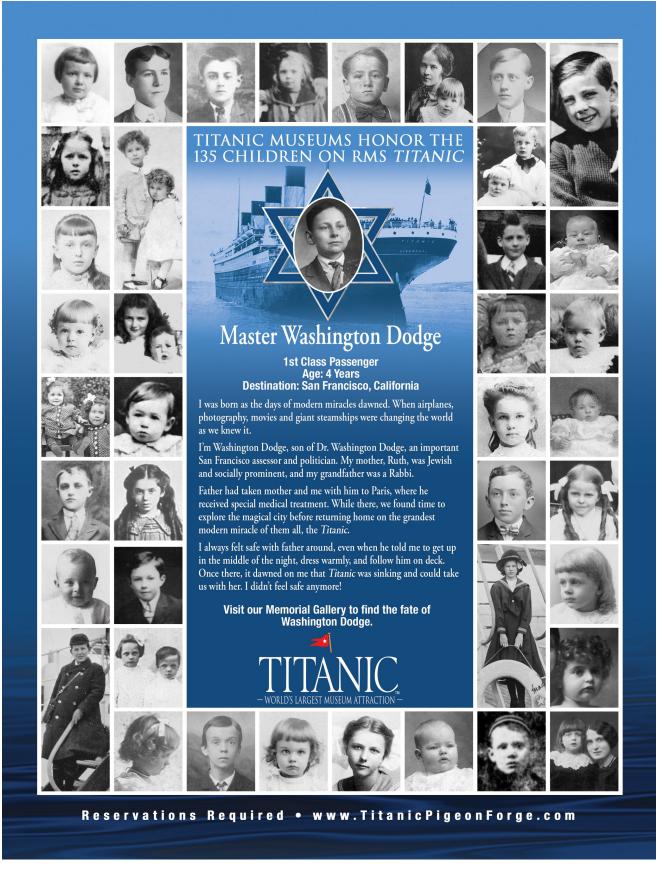
Hillel at UTK 💖



**Chag Sameach!** 

from

Sue, Josh & Andrew Koller





# **Welcome New Staff to KJDS**

#### By: Anna McDonald, Director of Admissions

Please help us in welcoming our phenomenal new staff members into the KJDS family. We are beyond thrilled to have these amazing professionals join our team.

#### **Welcome Nikki Sawyers**

Position: Kindergarten Teacher and K-1 Homeroom Teacher

**Bio:** Nikki Sawyers is a highly experienced educator, with 24 years of classroom expertise. She grew up in East TN and went to college at ETSU, and then continued at Milligan for her Master's in Education. Her focus in her many years in education has been on literacy. She brings a wealth of knowledge, passion, and dedication to fostering a love of learning in our young students. Her dedication to building strong relationships with students and parents makes her an invaluable addition to our school.

Why I chose KJDS: I feel like KJDS chose me. I quickly fell in love with the school and knew I had to be a part of this beautiful community. It is so important to find peace and joy in all that surrounds you, and that is what I felt each and every time I entered the school or talked with Miriam Esther. I knew this was a very special community school and I had to be a part of it.



#### **Welcome Darcy Devrnja**

**Position:** Innovation Coach

**Bio:** Darcy joins us with vast experience in education and school administration. She has been an elementary and middle school teacher, a curriculum coordinator, and led as a division head in Lower School and Middle School. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Science degree in Educational Leadership. She also taught educators obtaining their teacher certificate from the Teacher Ready Program in Florida and taught classes at the Outreach Program at the University of Tennessee. Darcy has served on many accreditation teams, facilitated the new teacher orientation at the Florida Council of Independent Schools, and presented at FCIS annual conference about Project Based Learning and planning thematic units for early childhood.

Why I chose KJDS: When I first looked at Knoxville Jewish Day School, the keyword that resonated with me in the school's values was "joy." Joy is a feeling of great happiness, and what better educational environment could you give a child than a feeling of happiness? I was fortunate to witness joy and community during class time, Gelt Mart, the art show, and 5th-grade graduation. Giving children the opportunity to enter into an environment that is surrounded by joy and passion for learning while being enriched by its Jewish heritage and culture is the reason I chose KJDS. I am excited to be part of this community entrenched in the school's values, where children are empowered by who they are and what they can accomplish.



#### Welcome Faina Rozov

Position: Hebrew Teacher and Bookkeeper

**Bio:** Faina has an extensive background in both education and finance management. She has worked at the embassy of Israel across 3 countries (USA, Bulgaria, and Russia) as a billing specialist, bookkeeper, and budget manager. She has taught in various capacities, focusing on Hebrew language instruction, as well as science, for 13 years. Faina and her family have recently relocated to Knoxville after most recently living in NYC.

**Why I chose KJDS**: KJDS provides a nurturing and welcoming environment for both students and teachers. It is an educational incubator that fosters growth and enrichment. Learning and developing within this school is a truly rewarding experience.



#### Welcome Julie Jolly

**Position:** Director of Operations

**Bio:** As a passionate educator with over twenty years of experience, Julie has taught primary grades in private and public-school settings and worked as an administrator for several years in a family-focused private school. She has a proven track record of developing and implementing policies and procedures that foster a safe, supportive, and positive learning environment for students.

**Why I chose KJDS**: For the joy, of course! I want to work with educators that focus on making learning a curious, fun-filled journey! The small, nurturing school environment builds strong relationships, and I cannot wait to be a part of it.



#### **Welcome Becca Stein**

**Position:** Director of Development

**Bio:** Becca has spent the last 5 years working in the Jewish non-profit sector in New York and Florida. She is also a former special education teacher. Becca and her husband recently moved to Knoxville this summer from the Tampa area.

Why I chose KJDS: I have been committed to serving Jewish nonprofits throughout my life. In the last five years, I have also decided to leverage my management and educational experience to do that professionally. Having the opportunity to be involved in the Jewish community of Knoxville, my new home, was thus an indispensable part of our move here. KJDS is an organization that exactly aligns with these passions of mine. It provides a truly unique, innovative, and enriching environment for our community and Jewish families throughout Knoxville.





# **KJDS is JOY**

#### By: Gina DiSalvo, KJDS Parent and Vice President of the Board of Directors KJDS is the happiest place to be -

But joy doesn't just happen. It happens because of community commitment. Together we raised \$134,982 in 3 days! JOY is belonging. Every new student at KJDS is paired with an older student or classmate who sits with them during morning Tefillah. Belonging continues in each classroom with morning meeting and closing circle. Belonging extends to the community of staff, students, and families who support each other.

JOY is excellent. KIDS is dedicated to child-centered learning and students are supported as individuals. They develop empirical observation skills through exploring the 5-acre campus and through hands-on experiments. The modern Hebrew curriculum is fun and practical. In their studies of history, culture, and society, students at all levels engage topics with depth and reflection.

JOY is musical. By the end of elementary school, KJDS students have performed principal roles in shows such as Newsies, The Lion King, and Willy Wonky. The school also enjoys celebrating Jewish holidays together. The students love a flash mob dance after the Purim parade, the Passover play, or the parent talent show! KJDS closes each week with a Shabbat party.

JOY is intergenerational. KJDS welcomes the involvement of extended families and members of the local Jewish community in the life of the students. The school takes pride in the Special Friends program that pairs lewish adults with students. KIDS also loves grandparent visitors and volunteers.

JOY is meaningful. Students enjoy coordinating student-led volunteer efforts, such as Mobile Meals for Seniors, during their time at KIDS and alumni are frequently involved in community activities. KIDS students also participate in community events and one of the aftercare activities includes visiting residents of a retirement community. Thank you to our community for investing in joy!







Credit: Lev Gross-Comstock

Credit: Miriam Esther Wilhelm





Credit: Miriam Esther Wilhelm

Credit: Miriam Esther Wilhelm

Credit: Juicebeats Photography





Credit: Juicebeats Photography

Credit: Miriam Esther Wilhelm

# **Thank You to our Founding Board Members**

#### By: Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Head of School

On behalf of the Board of Directors at the Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School, we would like to recognize founding board members, Jeff and Nancy Becker, on their seventeen years of service to our school.

Your tireless effort, enthusiasm, dedication, and support have turned a dream into a thriving, dynamic reality! You are an integral part of the success of the school, and we are deeply grateful for your vision, friendship, and continued guidance. We look forward to giving you continued Nachas in the years to come.



2023 KJDS Board of Directors Credit: Steve Markman





# With Gratitude

#### By: Mary Ann Merrell, Heska Amuna Synagogue President

My mind swirls with all the things that need to be said in a first article as Madame President - what an amazing year it has been for our religious worship at Heska Amuna, not having missed a single Shabbat or chag as we have traversed the past year without a Rabbi (with thanks owed to many, many for this as there is no magic in how it has been able to happen); or how incredibly exciting it is to be looking forward to the High Holy Days with Rabbi Rayzel Raphael coming home to lead us, inspire us, and to guide us into a new year committed to living Jewishly in community; or how so many of our new board members are bringing great energy to meaningful and joyful familyengaging worship, events, and celebrations; or to send our warmest welcome to Temple Beth-El's Rabbi Siroty; or to express the true gratitude and appreciation I have for each and every one of our volunteers who make our community a kehillah filled with chesed.

But swirling all above this is the sense of loss I feel for myself personally and our community at the passing of Bernie Bernstein and the importance in recognizing the immense debt of gratitude owed to someone who inspired so many of us to stay committed and true to causes, people, and institutions worth striving to maintain.

I know without a doubt that all of you reading this could have written this better. Bernie's legacy extends far beyond the ways in which I knew him – from his insistence on pursuing the dignity of all in the realm of civil rights and law to his groundbreaking work with the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and to the incredible community leadership he provided to the UT Medical Center, and to so many others. My shared times with Bernie were but a microcosm

of the ways in which he created a foundation for us all.

So many of the stories shared during the memorial service or shiva minyanim had the same thread; as Rabbi Lynn Liberman so eloquently said of Bernie, "There was a man." And so many attested to this greatly admired man that Bernie was to them, sharing so many memories of what being graciously yet doggedly committed to causes looks like. This loss, although paling in comparison to that of family and friends, is indeed enormous for the Heska Amuna and the Knoxville Jewish community.

When the first day of Rosh Hashanah comes this year, I know many will miss Bernie chanting the haftorah for us. Over the past few years, I had the immense pleasure to share this haftorah with him as it is truly one of the longest we recite during the year. Do you think we might have winged it, decided where to hand off to each other on the fly, had a passing phone conversation to decide this? Of course not, we practiced together in person, more than once to make sure we got it right. And he always did.



Bernie setting the cornerstone of Heska Amuna Synagogue with Fred Millen and Louis Lippner. 1968



Heska Amuna Synagogue President, 1975-1977; Chair of the Board of Trustees, 1966-1967

### Don't Forget to Celebrate

#### By: Mark Siegel, Chair of Board of Trustees

Hello. I am Mark Siegel, the new Chair of Heska Amuna Synagogue. This is my first HaKol article. If you don't know me and see me, please come up and say Hello. Actually, if you do know me and see me, please come up and say Hello.

By way of introduction, I was born in Knoxville in 1955. My father Miles Siegel served as chair of Heska Amuna the year after I was born. He and my mother Zelda, both of blessed memory, were actively involved in the Jewish community. I was bar mitzvahed on Shavuot 1968 in what is now the Rosen Social Hall. After about a 35-year legal career, I retired as a Social Security administrative law judge in 2019. I am currently an Executive Committee member of the Tennessee Democratic Party, which is a publicly elected position.

As I write this, Heska Amuna is abuzz with preparations for 5784's High Holidays, and I am excited about our upcoming celebrations.

If I have one word to summarize my hopes for Heska Amuna over the next two years, it is "Celebrate." I know some of you will now have the 1980 song by Kool and the Gang lodged in your heads for the rest of the day. For this I apologize. Unless you're a fan, and then "you're welcome."

I hope that Heska Amuna will be a place of celebration throughout this next Jewish year, and that our members will celebrate. I hope that together we will celebrate Judaism, celebrate Shabbat, celebrate our Jewish holidays, celebrate Heska Amuna, and celebrate each other in our joys and sorrows, through our annual cycles, and through our life cycles.

A lot of you have already heard me talk about this. Some may think it is aspirational. Some may think it is delusional. Some of you remember my father. He used to like to say that you have to put the em-PHA-sis on the right syl-LAB-ble. So, let's look at what Heska Amuna has to celebrate from the last twelve months. The fact is, in so many ways, Heska Amuna has had a great year.

First of all, we continue to have new members joining Heska Amuna, eight families this year. Not only have our new members been welcomed into our Heska Amuna Congregation, they have rapidly become great members who come to services, read Torah, and give sermons. One has joined the Board of Trustees as a vice chair. We are proud of our new members, and our Community Engagement vice-chairs last year who helped bring them to Heska Amuna: Sandy Parker and Jenny Wood.

Sandy's efforts over the past year have been truly inspirational. For months, Sandy and Lisa Jacobson personally kept up the standard of Heska Amuna weekly kiddushim after Shabbat services. Others including Miriam Weinstein and Marion Bayer have now taken up this mitzvah, but Sandy and Lisa's leadership was special. Sandy has also headed our Bikkur Cholim Committee. Bikkur Cholim literally means visiting the sick, but the committee has been so much more. Bikkur Cholim has provided dozens of mitzvot for congregants in need, and I'm sure we've all received birthday cards, condolence cards, or holiday from Sue Koller on behalf of Bikkur Cholim.

All of this is why, when Sandy left the Board this year, I made a motion that we declare her a super-member, and the motion passed unanimously.

Our Rabbi and Religious Services Committee does a fantastic job keeping our services and holiday celebrations going, whether it's five different kinds of Shabbat services, or weekday minyans, Shiva minyans, High Holiday services, Purim, Simchat Torah, or Tisha B'Av services. Many of our services have been led by our incredible lay leaders; many have been led by Rabbi Shush Carson.

Markus Eisenbach's extraordinary contribution must be recognized. Markus had finished his term as President, the spiritual leader of the Congregation, when he was asked to step back in to fill a vacancy. He did and was amazing.

We had a great event this year celebrating Heska Amuna's 130th Anniversary, and a wonderful community Passover Seder, with large committees bringing both to life. Abraham Brietstein organized meaningful Adult Education programs including those on relational Judaism and the Rabbi Mark Greenspan Shabbaton, as well as a weekly Pirke Avot study group.

The tireless Outdoor Beautification efforts of Pat Rosenberg and Marilyn Burnett have kept our outdoors beautiful. Our grounds look incredible. Of course, Frank Floyd is often at the synagogue working on things our physical facility needs.

Doug Weinstein and Marty Iroff spent countless hours revamping our streaming capacity. Marty as always also kept us on the right track in a myriad of ways, including as Treasurer working this year with our Finance Chair Ben Sulman.

Our Chevra Kedisha Committees which ritually prepare bodies for burial, under the leadership of Jerry Becker and Martha Iroff, continue to perform their critical job more often than any of us would like, as does Chesed, which provides meals to bereaved families. Mary Beth Leibowitz, along with Michael Burnett, is doing a fantastic job with our Cemetery Committee.

Our staff of Beverly Wilcox and Marianne Stephansen do so much, in so many ways, to hold us together. Any kind of recitation like this is always going to forget people that absolutely should be mentioned. I apologize to each and every one of you who I have neglected to name.

Because of the hard work, time commitment, and creativity of our membership and staff, a lot of really great things happen at Heska Amuna every day, and the last year has been no exception. We're planning to keep it up this year as well!

So, don't forget to celebrate. And, if I don't see you before then, L'Shana Tova Tikateyvu.





# **Relational Judaism at Heska Amuna**

#### By: Abraham Brietstein, Adult Education Vice-Chair

Several months ago, Heska Amuna started an initiative, based on the concept of Relational Judaism, a term coined by renowned author and educator, Ron Wolfson, focusing on enhancing the engagement and interaction of synagogue members through Jewish focused events that are not necessarily confined to the walls of the synagogue. A Relational Judaism Team was formed, including Abraham Brietstein, Jenny Wood, Bill Berez, Jeff Becker and Neil Meshorer. Plans were adopted to sponsor Shabbat dinners and Havdalah celebrations in the homes of host families with invitations going to all synagogue members to join one of 10 such events through a sign-up program.

The program has been very successful, and thus far there have been 10 such events with more than 75 participants, not counting the host families. These events provided an opportunity to celebrate Shabbat or Havdalah with good food, wine, and blessings with synagogue members with whom participants were not necessarily well acquainted. As you can see from the photo, a good time was had by all as well as new opportunities for interacting in the homes of other synagogue members.

We wish to thank all the host families for generously offering their homes for these celebrations. The Relational Judaism Team hopes to build on its success and create additional opportunities to strengthen connections between Heska Amuna members while at the same time strengthening our connection to the broader Jewish community.



Havdalah Group

# **Heshbon HaNefesh - High Holy Days Preparation**

#### By: Miriam Weinstein

It is traditional to do a Heshbon HaNefesh, a review of your actions over the past year, in Elul, the month before the High Holy Days. It has been called an accounting for your soul. The Rabbis orchestrated this to be a multistep process. During this month the shofar is sounded during morning minyanim which reminds us that the High Holy Days are coming and that each person should start personal introspection of errors and lapses. There are ten days of repentance before Rosh Hashanah to further help us enter into serious prayer. Selichot, the penitential service, is held the evening after the Shabbos before Rosh HaShanah.

Our prayers for forgiveness from The Almighty do not cover any hurtful actions we may have done to other people. Introspection during Elul can help us be aware of where we also need to ask forgiveness from others. It also gives us a time to reflect on how we can do better in the coming year. In our breakneck, over-scheduled life, this can be very precious.

May You have a Sweet New Year



# Heska Amuna Synagogue is (more than very very) pleased to announce:

#### Rabbi Rayzel Raphael

will be leading our High Holy Day worship this year along with Josh Gettinger, Gilya Schmidt, and many of our favorite congregational leaders.

Join us for an inspirational and intentional beginning of 5784.

«				
5783 High Holy Days at Heska Amuna Synagogue				
Joint S'lichot Service with Temple Beth-El (at Temple)	Saturday	9/9/23	8 pm	
Cemetery Service/New Jewish Cemetery	Sunday	9/10/23	10 am	
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Friday	9/15/23	6 pm	
1st Day Rosh Hashanah Services, childcare; Youth-of-all-Ages & Family services (10:30a)	Saturday	9/16/23	10 am	
2nd Day Rosh Hashanah, childcare, Youth-of-all-Ages and Family services (10:30a, Rosh			)) 	
Hashanah community lunch (following services), and Tashlich (3p)	Sunday	9/17/23	10 am	
Kol Nidre and childcare	Sunday	9/24/23	7 pm	
Yom Kippur Morning Services, childcare. Youth-of-all-Ages and Family services (10:30a),			% %	
Afternoon study session (following services) and Meditative walk (4p)	Monday	9/25/23	10 am	
Yom Kippur Mincha, childcare. Break-the-Fast (following Havdalah)	Monday	9/25/23	6 pm	
1st Day Sukkot - Family Friendly Shabbat with Lunch in the Sukkah following services	Saturday	9/30/23	9:30 am	
2nd Day Sukkot Service	Sunday	10/1/23	9:30 am	
Shmini Atzeret Service with Yizkor and Geshem	Saturday	10/7/23	9:30 am	
Simchat Torah Services & Hakafot; lunch honoring Markus Eisenbach following services	Sunday	10/8/23	9:30 am	

- **All services will be held at the synagogue,** 3811 Kingston Pike. We have added a stairlift to the front door foyer to ensure everyone can comfortably join us.
- New this year: Thank you to Miriam Weinstein and her Community Engagement committee for hosting **lunch following services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah** for us all. Also new this year, a **guided meditation walk** during our Yom Kippur afternoon break.
- **Children's services** have been redesigned to engage children of all ages in a delightful mix of worship and play, joy and celebration.
- **Childcare** at no charge to families, thanks to the Heska Amuna Women's League, but we must ask that you RSVP to the Education Committee to let them know what days and times you need childcare: Education@HeskaAmuna.org.
- Frank Floyd will once again be creating the perfect **Break-the-Fast** for us.
- The Education Committee will be hosting **lunch in the Sukkah** following a very joyful family-friendly-and-fun Shabbat service on Sept. 30.
- Many, many thanks to Mike Glasman for leading the **building of our Sukkah** this year; to all of our creative and/or taller congregants, please lend him a hand.

More details for all of our holy day and fall holidays services and events are on our website.

Questions? Just ask – RRS@HeskaAmuna.org.

Next Issue: Fall Holiday Details





# **Contributions**

#### Contributions by Caring People through June 26, 2023

#### **BUILDING FUND**

In Memory of Bernard Bernstein Judith & Jack Benhayon Mary Linda Schwarzbart Pessa Brody

#### CAMP RAMAH

In Memory of Bernard Bernstein Tish & Ben Doochin Meryl & Richard Levitt

#### CEMETERY FUND

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In Honor of Visiting Grandchildren Judy & Abraham Brietstein In Memory of Yetta Hornstein Susette & Raphe Panitz

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In loving memory of our dear Uncle Bernard (Bernstein) to thank him for his kindness, wisdom, generosity, friendship, and humor. Lynne & Martin Marvet

In Memory of Bernard Bernstein

Vera & Leon Maya

Joyce York & Michael Messing

In Memory of Esther Kisilinsky; Max Weinstein; Sanford Weinstein; Hyman Kisilinsky; Ben Mazur; Alvin Kingsley; Myrna

Jill & Douglas Weinstein

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In Memory of Sarah & Gary Miller; Joseph Weinbren; Joseph Green

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In Memory of Nicholas Kutsubos; Marilyn Cornez Linda Kutsubos

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# A Good Year, A Year of Peace I Wish to You

#### By: Rabbi Cantor Raina Siroty

The summer is slowly coming to an end. The children are back in school, and soon we will be in the month of Elul, the time of prayer and introspection, the prelude to the High Holy Days.

I know, you are saying to yourself, "The High Holy Days are arriving a bit early this year." Do they ever arrive "on time"? I sometimes think that for many of us the answer to this question is... one week later than when they appear on the calendar! "On time" to us should be when we have properly prepared our souls for the experience; when are ready to return to our roots and make a fresh start. That's what the month of Elul leading up to Rosh Hashanah is about, a whole month of preparation to truly experience the Days of Awe.

There are many reasons why we return year after year to celebrate the Holy Days together: to sit and recite prayers in the same seats that our families have sat in year after year, to decide that this is the year to make positive changes in your life...whatever it is that brings you back to connect with one another and become part of our synagogue and Jewish community.

The High Holy Days have long been that catalyst that brings Jews back home when they are spiritually hungry. These powerful days teach us that it is never too late to do teshuva, to come back into the Jewish fold and rekindle your relationship with God, Torah and the Jewish people. By returning, you can recapture what you have lost, or even acquire what you never had in the first place.

We are blessed to live during a wonderful time with boundless opportunities for Jewish spiritual growth. And at Temple Beth El, we have created a special community for those who have decided to come along with us on their Jewish journey and share meaningful Jewish moments together throughout the year.

There are so many ways for you to recapture and rekindle the Jewish spark in your lives.

The Holy Days are almost here. It is time to come home.

Shana Tovah u'Metukah. Wishing everyone a very sweet and happy New Year!

# What is Happening at TBE

#### By: Kathy Young, President

We welcome Rabbi Cantor Raina Siroty to Knoxville and especially to Temple Beth El as our new spiritual leader. Her excitement is contagious. I know we are all looking forward to all the new and innovative ideas she will be sharing with the Congregation.

But we need your help to ensure a smooth transition. It does not take much to participate in the activities of TBE. You can volunteer for a committee, help with the revamping of Sisterhood, sponsor an Oneg Shabbat, plan a get-together for a group, start a Chavurah, come to Services, or help with our many dinners. These are just a few suggestions. Can we count on you?

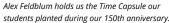
The new year is a time of reflection for all of us. Will we be inscribed in the Book of Life for another year? Will we endure hardships? These, I believe, are set during the Days of Awe. Who knows what the future brings!

From my family, Tammy, Eric, Angel, Dan, Debra, Rainie and me, have a sweet and memorable 5784. May you be blessed this year and the years ahead.

# Hands On, Hearts On, Minds On Learning

#### By: Norma James, Temple Beth El Religious School Director







Alex and Al Feldblum dig up the Time Capsule.



Leah Faupel's students love her so much! They hate to say goodbye for the summer.

Religious School begins Sunday, August 27th 9:30-12:00.

Midweek Hebrew for 4th-7th graders begins August 30th 4:30-6:00.

I cannot wait to get my 22nd year of TBERS started! I have missed the sounds of lots and lots of young people in our building. This August we will have Rabbi Cantor Raina Siroty, our new Rabbi, greeting our students. Rabbi Raina will be collaborating with our amazing TBERS staff. She is already familiar with the ISJL curriculum as they used it at her former congregation. We have been meeting all summer to make plans a fabulous year of "Hands on, Hearts on, Minds on Learning." Look for new songs, enhanced T'filah, and plenty of family programming. The sky is the limit this year!

It was very hard to say goodbye to Rabbi Schiftan. He brought such excitement to our school days and especially to our Jewish holidays. We wish Rabbi Mark the very best as he enjoys his retirement. He is excited for us to get to know Rabbi Siroty because he is a big fan of hers.

Chai Class is back this year! We are excited to announce that Madison Williams will be teaching our teen class of 8th-10th graders. Madison has years of experience with middle and high school students. Madison met with several teens to find out what they are looking for in a post B'nai Mitzvah program.

These students will have an active curriculum that will include field trips and social action projects.

Another big announcement! Confirmation is moving to 9th grade! We really missed having Confirmation last year. Rabbi Siroty is very excited to study with our 9th and 10th graders for Confirmation. We hope to have a nice big class this year.

TBERS will partner with PJ Library/PJ Our Way, and KJDS for a year of special programs. Anna Iroff-Bailey will have more information, so keep an eye out for news. Our first program will be a Pre-Rosh Hashanah event on September 10th.

Students will enjoy starting off the Jewish new year with a little sweetness on their tongues thanks to the Sisterhood providing apples and honey on September 10th. Thank you, Sisterhood, for all you do for us.

We will once again have children's services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at 9:00AM on both holiday mornings. There will be two services from which to choose:

**Early childhood service**: Jesse Weckstein will do a special children's service directed at our younger children. Last years' service was a huge hit for children, parents, and grandparents. Parents and grandparents are invited to bring your young



children to our PreK Classroom for songs, stories, prayers, and a visit from the Rabbi, as we celebrate this High Holy Days. This service is designed for tots through 3rd grade.

Young people's service: Rabbi Siroty and Norma will lead a service designed for children 4th grade and up. If you prefer, you may send your 2nd or 3rd grader to this service. For many students this is the only service they experience during High Holy Days. We want to make this a meaningful experience for them. There is much to learn about T'shuvah, T'fillah, and Tzedakah. This will be an engaging and spiritual experience for all. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to join us.

I wrote the following last year, but it bears repeating...

But we can't afford to miss regular school during High Holy Days! Believe me, I know how your older child feels; I had two of my own. I will remind you that schools are required to give your child an excused absence for religious holidays. We try to communicate with schools to discourage them from scheduling tests on those days. It never hurts for you to let them know well ahead of time. We have set our young people's service for 9:00 to allow you time to get back to school if that is your choice. I want to encourage our older students to attend our adult services this year. Being post B'nai Mitzvah means that you are part of our adult community of worshippers. Our evening services are beautiful and don't require missing school.

But why do you think adults take off work every year to attend High Holy Day services? What is it about these services that pull at all of us? We make time for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur every year, regardless of our secular calendar. There is a good reason for that. Everything about Judaism is contained in these "Ten Days of Awe." We celebrate a new year and a new start with songs, stories, and praise. We reflect and question. We ask forgiveness of others, of God, and of ourselves. We pray as a community; we pray alone. We are welcomed by friends; we are comforted by friends. We eat apples and honey, we fast, and we break the fast together. Shouldn't we consider including our children in this experience? Setting aside these two weekdays to be holy days as a family can make a beautiful impact on your children, regardless of how many services you attend. Temple Beth El gives us many ways to experience High Holy Days. I encourage you to create a Jewish holiday that is meaningful and memorable to your own family.

Please join our Midweek Hebrew students as we decorate our Sukkah Wednesday, September 27th 4:30-6:00. Pizza & bagels will be served. Then bring your family to our Sukkot Shabbat on Friday, September 29th. Because of our Fall Break, we are pushing Simchat Torah a day early and will celebrate it on Friday, October 6th.

Fall Break is October 8th-15th.

# Maya Sadovnik to Become Bat Mitzvah

Maya Allison Sadovnik will be called to the Torah on August 19th, 2023. She is the daughter of Amir Sadovnik and Margaret Page and the sister of Ely. Maya Sadovnik is a rising 7th grader at Bearden Middle School where she is a member of the dance team and a new member of the volleyball team. For Maya's Mitzvah project, she is volunteering at Northshore Heights Assisted Living where she is helping to run activities for memory care residents. In her spare time, she enjoys dancing, swimming, art, and travel. She loves spending time with friends, family and her dog, Brooklyn.



# **Contributions to the Funds of Temple Beth El**

#### Donations listed were received as of June 23, 2023

#### CARE COMMITTEE FUND

Debra Caylor and Allan Tusberg In memory of Andrew W. Caylor Kathy Young In memory of my father, Allen Kravitz

#### **CLARENCE STRASBURGER SACRED MUSIC FUND**

Kathy Young
In memory Ed Tucker & Bruce Leimsidor

#### **ENDOWMENT FUND**

Mark and Susan Leitson In memory of Thelma Leitson

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#### **GENERAL FUND**

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Marilyn Kallet, Chuck and Missy Noon, Wilma Weinstein-Lomax and

Bonnie Wieczorek, Liz Gassel and Michael Pardee, Lou Gross and

# In honor of Rabbi Mark Schiftan HERMINA BEILER FLORAL FUND

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In memory of Shirlie Goodfriend

Steve Fox and family
In honor of Michael Fox Bar Mitzvah
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Dan Smith
In memory of Edith & Nathan Smith and
IHO Rabbi Mark Schiftan
Peter and Briana Rosenbaum
In honor of Zach Rosenbaum Bar Mitzvah

#### MARX FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

Michael Eisenstadt and Mary Beth Leibowitz In memory of Albert Eisenstadt

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#### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

TBE Sisterhood Leonard Brown In memory of Margot Brown Debra Caylor and Allan Tusberg In memory of Brian Tusberg Ray and Babyling Pais In honor of 3 Ukrainian students

#### RONA SIMON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Rabbi Howard and Rona Simon In memory of Beverly Simon

#### SECURITY FUND

Andy and Zoya Loebl
Michael and Diane Cole
Bob and Elaine Freeman
In honor of Rabbi Mark Schiftan
Reba and Bennett Herzfeld
In memory of my mother, Estelle Kreisberg
Lou Gross and Marilyn Kallet
In memory of Cecelia Zimmerman
David and Vivian Butler
In memory of Mary Haller

#### SISTERHOOD FUND

Reba and Bennett Herzfeld In honor of Wilma Weinstein-Lomax for a full recovery Kevin James and Julia Wood In honor of Karl James

#### TREE OF LIFE FUND

Kevin James and Julia Wood In honor of Karl James TBE Board of Directors In honor of Rabbi Mark Schiftan



# **Your Campaign Dollars at Work**

#### By: Renee' Hyatt, VP Campaign

Please read what Sara Schonwetter and Oded Shainin have to say about the impact PJ Library has had on their family:

"We love the PJ Library Program because it brings more Jewish culture and Hebrew into our home. Our son loves it when he gets a new book in the mail and it is a fun way to teach him Jewish songs, values, holidays, stories, etc. We love the local programming and attend as many events as possible. This gives our family an opportunity to connect with others and we love to watch our son play and interact with other kids. His favorite is the monthly Shabbat service!"

In case you didn't know, PJ Library and PJ Our Way provide high quality Jewish children's literature and music every month for children from the time they are born to 12 years of age by mailing the age-appropriate selection directly to their home. In addition, PJ Library in Knoxville sponsors family friendly events throughout the year for children and their families to grow with Jewish learning and values, like the monthly Shabbat service.

- Scanning the QR code
- Click DONATE our website www.jewishknoxville.org

Please make your pledge to the 2023 Annual Campaign by

- Call 865-690-6343
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Discover the vibrant history & entrepreneurial spirit of Jewish Knoxville!



A Walking Tour of Jewish-Owned Businesses of Downtown Knoxville

Sunday, October 22, 10:00am

Presented by the KJA Archives Committee

# **Teen Pool Party!**

# bbyo bbyo Connect

#### By: Anna Iroff-Bailey, Director of Jewish Life

BBYO & BBYO Connect hosted a pool party on June 24 to welcome some new members and enjoy a fun summer evening of music, swimming, and lots of pizza! BBYO is a pluralistic Jewish teen movement that focuses on fun, meaningful experiences for teens in grades 9-12 that inspire a lasting connection to the Jewish people. BBYO's unique programming includes social programs, community service projects, and Judaic enrichment programs. BBYO Connect is a parallel experience for students in grades 6-8 who want to enjoy social, recreational, athletic, cultural, and Judaic activities. Thanks to Noa Barak, Virginia Kessler, and BBYO Advisor Paige Quartararo for hosting this pool party and leading these important programs! Thanks to the Ted & Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds for supporting this party and other BBYO programming.

Our next Teen Pool Party will be a back-to-school bash on August 5 – see you at the pool!









# **Pooch Plunge Returns on Sept 9**



Mark your calendars, dog lovers! On September 9th, there will be an epic dog pool party that you and your pooch won't want to miss! The 2nd annual Pooch Plunge will run from 10am-2pm at the Allen Rosen Aquatic Center. This event is a fundraiser benefiting the AJCC Smokin' Salmon swim team with a portion of proceeds being donated to Adopt a Golden Knoxville. There is fun to be had by every pup!

We have a large pool for the avid swimmer, a shallow baby pool for smaller breeds, and a large grassy area for the pups that prefer a less drenching experience. It might be a pool party for the dogs - but it is just as much fun for the humans! We have music, beverages, sponsors, vendors, door prizes and more. Check out these awesome pictures from last year!







More information & registration is available at www.jewishknoxville.org or scan here:



### Contributions

#### Donations listed were received as of June 30, 2023

#### ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Marla Brody Robin Brown David and Emma Fleischman Rob and Beth Heller Jan Hahn and Heather O'Brien Marilyn Pollio Judith Rosenberg Larry Silverstein Daniel Smith

#### BEAUTIFY THE AJCC PROJECT

Marilyn Burnett

in memory of Sidney Burnett

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Bernard Rosenblatt

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in memory of Bernard Bernstein

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in honor of Barbara Bernstein's 90th birthday

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#### **GOLDBERG FAMILY AJCC POOL ENDOWMENT FUND**

Keith Hulse and Emily Taylor

#### PRESCHOOL AT AJCC ART GALA

Thank you to all the Preschool at AJCC families for their contributions. A special Thank you to the following sponsors:

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# **Jewish Family Services** Collection Drive

to support Susannah's House Intensive Outpatient Program for mothers in recovery



#### **Drop-off Location:**

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#### **Needed Items:**

- Laundry Pods
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper • Dishwasher Pods
- Lysol Cleaning Products
- (Kitchen and Bath) • Individual Snacks and Juice
- boxes for kids • 13 Gallon Trash Bags
- 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- Paper Plates
- Solo Cups • Paper Napkins
- 12 oz Disposable Coffee Cups



#### JFS Shabbat Service

First Friday of Every Month, 4:30-5:15PM Sherrill Hills, 271 Moss Grove Blvd



# **President's Thoughts**

#### By: Barbara Mintz, President, Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge

Many of us know that Hadassah has been on the leading edge in research and treatment for the diseases we hear about often. Hadassah also frequently takes the lead in new medical arenas and one of the newest is ORGANOID DEVELOPMENT.

"To explain it in simple terms, organoids are lab-grown tissues that mimic the features and

functions of a tissue in the body, said Dr. Myriam Grunewald, the Director of the Organoid Center. To produce organoids, fresh biopsies of healthy and diseased tissue are taken and then processed and grown in a special gel that allows the cells to proliferate and self-organize into three-dimensional structures. Hadassah backed its researchers request to develop these processes and a new department was created. The biobank was inaugurated in 2021. Their work will have benefits across all diseases and pharmaceutical usage as well.

The future uses for these organoids are mindboggling. They stated "Using organoids, a doctor can investigate the effect of an unlimited number of drugs on a patient, and then identify the combination of drugs that will help that individual patient. This can bring personalized medicine to a completely new level." I have a friend dealing with prostate cancer. They have put him on so many different drug treatments, one at a time for a year now, trying to find one that works with little success so far. I wonder if testing drugs on an organoid might have found a more positive solution earlier for him, with fewer side effects from each drug, and before the cancer spread to his liver.

They are now able to grow organoids from almost every tissue found in the human body. The Director also reported "Five or ten years down the line, there is a good chance that we will be able to transplant patient's derived organoids to restore the function of a diseased organ. Now it might sound like science fiction, but it is not." Her words suggest that there may be a better option that reduces the desperate needs for some donor transplants in our lifetimes!

Hadassah plays an incredible role NOW in the improvement of our health. Support Hadassah and save lives.

# **Annual Givers Celebration Highlights**

#### By: Barbara Mintz, Chair

On June 25, twenty-five members of Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge gathered at the beautiful home of Reba Herzfeld in Tellico Village. The event included a gourmet dessert buffet and a wine and drink bar.

We celebrated and honored our Keepers of the Gate who are women who give to Hadassah yearly and pledge at least \$1000.00 each year as well as our Chai Society Givers who commit to giving at least \$180.00 yearly.

Barbara Mintz also wanted to show her appreciation to our current board who continue to give their time, brain power, and personal funds in support of Hadassah at all levels.

Our guest speaker was Hadassah's National Annual Givers Officer, Dana Waxler. She spoke to us about the importance of these funds that support Hadassah and Israel. As a result of this event, we are so proud to report that three additional members became Chai Society Givers.

Three women did nearly all of the planning, organizing, baking, and preparation. They were Reba Herzfeld, Andrea Cone, and Barbara Mintz. We had one more wonderful baker, Nora Messing. One bottle of wine was donated by Harriet Cooper. We cannot thank Reba enough for welcoming us into her home, for all of the hard work she put into this event, and for her overflowing hospitality. We thank her so much.



Host Reba Herzfeld and Event Chair Barbara Mintz of "Keepers of the Gate & Chai Society Givers" event.



Some of the 25 Hadassah Members who gathered for the celebration







# Hadassah and the Jewish National Fund After Statehood: Preserving the World Together

#### By: Peggy Littmann, JNF Chair

In the 1950's, Hadassah and JNF partnered to establish communities along the Galilee border by reclaiming land and creating forests. These years also included works to drain the malarial marshes and swamps in the Hula Valley for agricultural purposes. Today these communities are thriving, and Hula Lake has become an international destination for spectacular bird watching and research.

Indeed, the Jewish National Fund's achievements are vast—and Hadassah is a proud partner. Here is one example: Starting in 1965, JNF announced it would establish the Yatir Forest. The chances looked dim for a forest to actually flourish at the edge of the Negev Desert, where the low rainfall made the prospect of trees growing almost impossible. But the Yatir Forest, nurtured by the JNF, defied the odds, and grew to be one of Israel's largest and most beautiful forests. Later projects involved land reclamation and road development around Lake Keneret and other ambitious works in the north and central parts of Israel. In southern Israel, the goal was to green portions of the

desert, even areas around the Dead Sea. The 1980s saw a shift to water development, with the creations of dams, beaches, and waterfront parks. The unique Hadassah Ceramic Park was created at the entrance to Be'er Sheva, featuring beautiful sculpture and art. The projects were too many to list.

Today Hadassah continues its partnership with the JNF to make Israel a green and beautiful land, ever more accessible for everyone. New projects include making existing forests and parks more available to the disabled, including those restricted to wheelchairs or crutches, so they can enjoy Israel's beautiful forests too. In central Israel stands Haruvit Forest, one of these projects. It is described as "Paved nature trails, wide roads, plenty of parking, archaeological ruins accessible to the disabled, lookout points—It's all waiting for you." How can you help? Consider buying a beautiful tree or water certificate from Hadassah. Do it for yourself or to honor a friend or loved one. Israel will thank you. The Earth will thank you.

Contact: plittmann@comcast.net



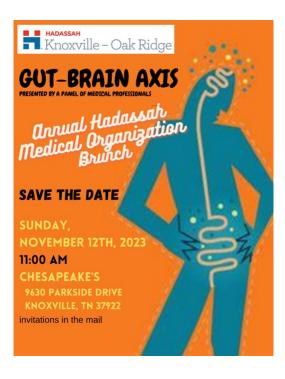
A Ring of Trees Will Be Planted in Israei As A Tribute To Lisa Smith Thank You for Your Continued Support Planted With Love By The Smith & Miller Families



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A Donation to JNF-USA's Water Programs has Been Made
As A Tribute To
Lisa Smith
Thank You for Your Continued Support
With Love
The Smith & Miller Families





# Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge Book Club News

#### By: Rhonda Sternfels, Book Club Co-Chair

We welcome you to participate in our next two Zoom only format Hadassah Book Club meetings, at 7:30 p.m., the third Tuesday of every month.

#### August 15, 2023 Pachinko By: Min Jin Lee

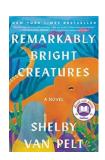
In the early 1900s, A Korean teenager Sunja, the adored daughter of a crippled fisherman, falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant - and that her lover is married - she refuses to be bought. She accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister. But her decision to abandon her home, and to reject her son's powerful father, sets off a dramatic saga that will echo down through the generations.

#### September 19, 2023 Remarkably Bright Creatures By: Shelby Van Pelt

#### **Future Book Selections:**

October 17, 2023 The Last Rose of Shanghai written by Weina Dai Randal

November 21, 2023 The Book Women of Troublesome Creek, written by Kim Michele Richardson After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors, and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. He forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared and must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late.



Please contact Rhonda Sternfels resternfels@comcast.net or call: 865-607-8863, if you have any questions, feedback, or want your name and email added to our list of book club members.

### **Knoshville 2023 "Thank You"**

#### By: Robin Brown and Nora Messing

To our chosen bakers, we thank you for your hard work for Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge's Bundt cake sale at Knoshville 2023 and for making an overwhelming success this year. We greatly appreciate all the time spent planning, organizing, and baking.

To our generous donors, a big Thank You to Tennessee School of Beauty; Shantoora Owens, Owner of State Farm in Memphis, TN; Robin Brown; Cammie Woodle of Nashville, TN; Salley Baerman; Bruce Messing of Maywood, NJ; and Sarah and Bob Milford.

And last, but certainly not least, thank you to all who purchased a cake and especially those who added an extra donation on top of their cake purchase(s).



# Licht-McGuire Jewish Food Fund...Mazal Tov and Donations are Welcome and Matched

The KJCFF board of directors is proud to announce our newest designated fund for KJA, the Licht-McGuire Jewish Food Fund. The fund was created by Richard Licht and Shirley McGuire, and they will match up to \$5,000 of community donations to the fund. Richard and Shirley are long-time members of KJA and Temple Beth El. Richard's family has a rich history in the Knoxville Jewish community as well as the East Tennessee food industry. The purpose of the fund is to support Jewish food education and experiences. Richard and Shirley hope that grants will spur ideas about celebrating our Jewish food culture while inspiring our local organizations to collaborate culinary projects.

If you would like to support the future of Jewish food in Knoxville, mail a check made out to KJCFF to 6800 Deane Hill Drive and on the memo line write "B'Tayavon!"

#### KJCFF mourns the loss of our friend Bernie Bernstein

The KJCFF board offers our condolences to the Bernstein family on the loss of our friend Bernie. KJCFF was born on September 30, 1999, and our charter holds Bernie's signature. Along with President Jeff Becker and Secretary Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Bernie was our founding vice president. He served as an officer and board member until his passing in June. He was both a leader in thought and practice when it came to philanthropy. During his tenure, KJCFF grew from \$0 to over \$5,000,000 and there is no way we would have accomplished this without his wise counsel and guidance.

If you would like to make a donation to KJCFF in Bernie's memory, please contact Laura or Stephen

#### **Reback Fund Makes Grant to KJA for Support of BBYO**

The Ted and Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund made a grant of \$1,000 to KJA for support of BBYO programming. The fund honors longtime Knoxville volunteers who were leaders of both the AJCC and BBYO. The fund committee members are Rick Reback, Sandy Reback, Mark Bernstein, Pace Robinson, and Stephen Rosen. The committee is very appreciative that KJA makes a home for BBYO at the AJCC and is offering programming resources through its professional staff and volunteers. They also look forward to making more grants to Weinstein BBG and Winick AZA in the coming year as BBYO celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2024.

If you would like more information about the Reback Fund, BBYO or starting your own program support fund, contact Laura or Stephen

#### How to make out a check for a KJCFF donation

If making a donation to a KJCFF fund by check, it should be made out to KJCFF with the fund name in the memo line on the check or in an accompanying memo. Need DTC instructions for a stock transfer? Please contact Stephen or Laura.

# Welcome Rabbi Mendel, Mimi, and Kovi Pinson

#### Exciting News for Knoxville!

Thank G-d Miriam Esther and I are excited to welcome Rabbi Mendel and Mimi Pinson who will be joining the Chabad of Knoxville team. Rabbi Mendel and Mimi will expand our teen, youth, and children's programming. They will run the Knoxville Cteen chapter, expand Jewish learning opportunities for students 6th grade and up and run Chabad's Holiday programs. Rabbi Mendel, Mimi, and baby Kovi will be moving to Knoxville in August and are excited to continue Chabad's mission to bring the Joy of Judaism to all Jews in Knoxville.

A little background on Rabbi Mendel and Mimi: Mendel grew up on Shlichus in Pasadena, California, where he developed a deep commitment for helping Jews explore their Judaism and organizing community events. He has organized Passover seders and High Holiday services in various communities across the country, gaining a profound understanding of the needs and aspirations of these communities. With Rabbinical ordination from Los Angeles and studies at the central Chabad yeshiva in Crown Heights, Mendel is a dedicated spiritual leader eager to share the wisdom of Torah.



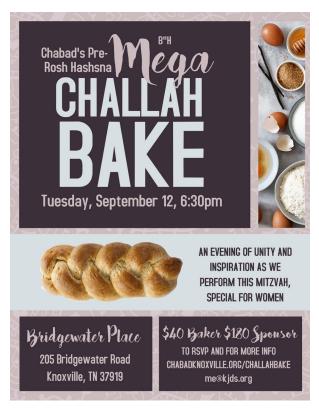
Maurice and Nathalie Guigui, Miriam Esther and Rabbi Yossi, Rabbi Mendel and Mimi, Sarah Zemel and Dr. Michael Zemel pose for a picture at the Ohel, the resting place of the Lubavitcher Rebbe O.B.M. after signing the contract between Chabad of Knoxville and the Pinsons. Photo Credit: Miriam Esther Wilhelm



Rabbi Mendel, Mimi, and Kovi Pinson

Mimi's upbringing in Crown Heights, in a home known for its open doors and inclusive atmosphere, fueled her desire to pursue a life of community involvement and helping others connect to Torah and Mitzvot. She completed her studies in seminary in Tzfat and directed an after-school program, where she nurtured a love for Judaism in her students. Mimi's warm and welcoming nature makes her an invaluable asset in creating an inclusive and inviting environment for those seeking a connection to their Jewish heritage.

Together, Mendel and Mimi are excited about making a lasting impact on Knoxville's Jewish community. Their combined experiences and expertise allow them to bring innovative programming and engaging educational initiatives to invigorate the community and its youth. They aspire to establish lifelong friendships, foster personal and spiritual growth, and create a sense of belonging within the Jewish community in Knoxville. With their unwavering dedication and the support of the community, we are excited for Mendel and Mimi to take part in the growth of the already vibrant and flourishing Jewish presence in Knoxville, Tennessee.





# **JCOR** is Celebrating our 80th!

- Join JCOR the weekend of September 7-10 as we celebrate our 80th anniversary to honor the past and look to the future:
- Thursday Night Meet and Greet at DoubleTree Hotel for those arriving early or in town.
- Friday Opportunities around town. We have a list of options and will arrange a special tour of the development of Oak Ridge and what is exciting today.
- Friday Night Service followed by Oneg and Honoring of Pillars Program. Food will highlight the Jewish dishes of the famous cooks of JCOR through the years.
- Saturday Morning Service followed by Kiddish Lunch at JCOR with short program.
- Saturday Evening Party at the DoubleTree with Dinner, Music, Singing, and Program.
- Sunday Morning Brunch Upstairs at JCOR with an amazing spread and Music.
- Sunday afternoon for those who are here, an option to attend an Oak Ridge Music Association Concert featuring the music of a Holocaust Survivor among others.

# **High Holy Days at JCOR**

Join us as we welcome Rabbi Barbara Penzer as our High Holy Days Rabbi, and usher in the new year of 5784. She is looking forward to bringing her experience and skills as well as her love for davening and connecting with our Jewish community. Growing up in a large Conservative synagogue, Beth Shalom in Kansas City, she learned all of the traditional chazzanut from Odessa-trained Cantor Jacob Rothblatt z"l. She holds a Doctor of Divinity Degree from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. She has twenty-five years of rabbinic service.



Rabbi Penzer

#### JCOR High Holy Days Schedule 2023

Erev Rosh Hashanah	September 15, 7:30 pm
Rosh Hashanah	September 16, 10 am
Sisterhood Tashlich picnic at Oak Ridge Marina	September 16, 3 pm
Tashlich at Oak Ridge Marina	September 16, 4 pm
Kol Nidre	September 24, 6:30 pm
Yom Kippur	September 25, 10 am
Yom Kippur Mincha	September 25, 5:15 pm
Yom Kippur Break-fast	September 25, following Mincha
First day, Sukkot	September 30, 10 am
Lunch in the sukkah, first day of Sukkot	September 30, 1 pm
Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor	October 7, 10 am
Simchat Torah	October 7, 6:30 pm

Send email to office @jcor.info / Visit website www.jcortn.org



The Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies is the center for the study of Jews and Judaism at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. It offers a variety of public and academic programs that enhance student learning, promote Jewish Studies scholarship, and contribute to the intellectual life of the Knoxville community and beyond. UT offers an interdisciplinary Judaic Studies as well as several scholarships to support student learning. Courses in Judaic Studies range from the Hebrew Bible to the Holocaust and include both modern and Biblical Hebrew.





# Temple Beth El YAHRZEITS



#### August 4

Anne Cohen • Sylvia Cooper • Eugene Cyzick •
Hilda Freedman • Louis H. Gassel • Samuel Gelber •
Efim Golburt • Sylvia Cooper Goldstein • Harold Karklin •
Jacob Kimmet • Jennie Levy • Edward Lippner • Herbert Nash •
Daniel Nodelman • Mary Robinson • Sheldon Sachs •
Nancy Sauers • Pastor Serrato • Joseph Silverstein

#### August 11

Garrett Bickman • Jackie Bickman • Marie Elston •
Abram Golburt • Albert Greenberg • Monroe Hecht •
Benjamin Herrmann • Marcus Herrmann • Lynn Meyer •
Alice Palmer • Anne Prial • John Ravin • John Ringuette •
Emilie Strasburger • Emanuel Taylor • Ethel Taylor •
Revera Wayburn • Anne Weinstein

#### August 18

Zan Bailey • Jerome Bernstein • Angela Buie • Daniel Goodman • Matvei loselev • Sara Pais • Philip Reiter • William Rosenbaum • Marvin Selk • Rose Shenkman • Sidney Spero • Rebecca Winston

#### August 25

Ida Altshuler • Anna Blatt • Jacob Blaufeld •
Wolfe Brody • Charles Evans • Natalie Feldman •
Harold Heolderlin • Morris Hochenberg • Gilbert Klein •
Alex Klugman • Sylvia Leibowitz • Frances Milligan •
Glenn Powell • David Sachs • Liliya Safro •
Albert Sasson • Max Slome • Dora Stein • Helen Webber

#### September 1

Armand Abel • Hermina Beiler • Beatrice Bush • Rudy Crohn • Harold Garber • Marilyn Hookman • Meyer Kreisberg • Milton Levy • George Palmer • Lillian Sloane • Trygg Trant

#### September 8

Jane Allen • Ida Bing • Bertha Bollag • Zelmore Brody • Ida Chandler • Mellitta Colland • Arthur Copcutt • Harry Davis • Ada Garber • Seymour Gerson • Julius Goodfriend • Frances Guthman • Helen Koffman • Lawrence Leitson • Howard Rabin • Marilyn Rabin • Max Reich • Frida Ribak • Jeanne Rockmaker • Ettica Rosenbaum • Isaac Rosenbaum • Emanuel Samuel • Emanuel Schenkel • Khasya Shaposknikova • Israel Weiss • Ernest Wohl • Maurice Zauber

#### September 15

Ida Banov • Sylvia Butler • Max Derby • Arthur Feinbaum • Morris Goodfriend • Lillian Herzfeld • Rose Kreisler • Elaine Lewis • Renee Oury • Steve Reader • Celia Stein • Edwin Stein • Igor Tabakman

#### September 22

Robert Austin • William Coe • Samuel Gassel •
Harriet Goldman • Julia Herrmann • Max Herzfeld •
Stanley E. Levy • Sara Pasternak • Shirley Schaffer •
Linda Scheiner • Irving Shey • Suralee Smith • Sidney Tumpson

#### September 29

Peggy Austin • Leon Bornes • Evan Brody • Carolyn Bush • Yolanda Del Moro • Michael Diamond • Lauren Fine • Henry Fribourg • Adolph Gelber • K. Kennard Gross • Hans Haller • Ellison Jacobstein • Raymond Landsberger • Dorothy Licht • Joseph Smuckler • Beatrice Sturm • Hyman Taylor

# Heska Amuna Synagogue YAHRZEITS



#### August 5

Shoshana Becker · Muriel Boothman · Mollie Brietstein · Abraham Chaskin · Harry Fayonsky · Jacob Green · Joseph Herson · Hugo Klein · Janet Krauss · Jim Nash · Lester Robinson · Abraham Rosenblatt · Katie Ross · Marian Schneider · David Wender · Abe Zwick

#### August 12

Zeleg Berez · Sylvia Homer · Barbara Oleshansky · Sally Moskowitz · Esther Balloff · Mervin Horn · Gussie Richer · Jane Rosenblatt · Joseph Leeds · Thomas Miner · Dorothy Becker · Steven Shersky

#### August 19

Caryl Arsenault  $\cdot$  Jean Berger  $\cdot$  Betty Billig  $\cdot$  Estelle Binder  $\cdot$  Ida Chandler  $\cdot$  Paul Cooper  $\cdot$  Julius Gruenberg  $\cdot$  Oscar Isaacs  $\cdot$  Seymour Landis  $\cdot$  Hyman Liberman  $\cdot$  Robert Messing  $\cdot$  Albert Ring  $\cdot$  Rabbi A.J. Robinson  $\cdot$  Morris Shorr  $\cdot$  Molly Thorp  $\cdot$  Rebecca Winston

#### August 26

Bella Allen · Dustee Bendes · Gershon Cooper · Rosa Deitch · Ethel Foster · Andy Frank · Ada Garber · Sylvia Greenfield · Ruth "Billie" Goldhar · Lawrence Hahn · Max Hasden · Rebecca Krauss · Sylvia Leibowitz · Barney Levine · Muriel Littmann · Rebecca Millen · Samuel Poster · Louis Roth · Edwin Schnoll · Martin Schwab · Shlomo Shloush · Tessie Siegel · Helen Tobe

#### September 2

Wolf Brody · Adrian Burnett · Daniel Goodman · Hannah Nius · Anna Belle O'Brien · Louis Perelman · Freda Samet · Abraham Silber · Louis Slovis · Robert Zalkin

#### September 9

Louise Anderson · Irwin Bendes · Decia Bendriem ·
Sarah Billig · Mark Blumenthal · Molly Cohen ·
Harry Davis · Abraham Drutz · Sally Dyller ·
Walter Farkas · Erwin Herz · Sophie Merlin ·
Barbara Moody · Esther Perlberg · A· Stanley Robinson ·
Leah Schiff

#### September 16

Louis Billig · Isaac Elbaz · Chaya Farbowitz ·
Hinda Farbowitz · Oscar Glazer · Esther Rachel Goldman ·
Harriet Goldman · Jennye Grusin · Joseph Martin ·
Fred Millen · Sylvia Robinson · Martha Schwartz ·
Isadore Schwarzbart · Mazal Shloush · B.J. Thorp ·
Gertrude Weinstein

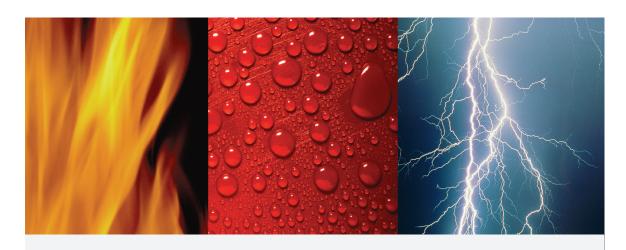
#### September 23

Esther Abrams · Harold Bellin· Max Diamond · Ida Dwork · Emily Eads · Harry Glasman · Sylvia Greenberg · Morton Jacobson · Jeanette Jacobowitz · Marie Klinkowstein · Don Kremer · Phyllis Levine · Rebecca Mazur · Sarah Millen · Evelyn Schwab · Adeline Shersky · Louis Slabosky · Louis Winick

#### September 30

Isaac Anidjar · Louis Bender · Lena Busch · Toba Davis · Paul Dreyer · Etka Farbowitz · Shmuel Farbowitz · Sadie Gabler · Jeffrey Ginsburg · Joseph Green · Anna Gruenberg · Isaac Joffe · Geoffrey Kramer · Bertha Krauss · Sydney Manas · Sarah Millner · Blima Schwarzbart · Samuel Schwarzbart · Bernard Shorr · Sylvia Slovis · Beatrice Sturm · Samuel Wise





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# The Barbara Winick Bernstein Archives of the Jewish Community of Knoxville and East Tennessee

# The Way We Were in 1999

**Surprise Birthday Party for Mary Linda Schwarzbart** 



Back row, left to right: on far left, Lee **Miller** (now Blotner), Myra **Weinstein** (z"l), Goldie **Jaffe** (z"l), Karen **Smith**; front row: Rae **Davis** (z"l), Sylvia **Silver** (partially hidden) (z"l), Gert **Danziger** (z"l), sisters Toby **Slabosky** (z"l) and Debbie **Freeman** (z"l), Francie **Foster** (Debbie's daughter), Elaine **Freeman**. Facing them: Mary Linda **Schwarzbart**.

Twenty-four years ago, Sylvia **Silver** (z"l), organized a surprise birthday party for Mary Linda **Schwarzbart** at the AJCC. At that time Mary Linda was on the board of the AJCC and was president of the Knoxville Jewish Federation (KJF). Here are some of the attendees at the event with all eyes focused on Sylvia, who's reading something she prepared for the event.

Mary Linda, Karen, Francie, and Elaine continue to live in Knoxville. Lee moved to New Orleans a few years ago. Relatives still living in Knoxville include Myra's sons Doug and Jeff, Gert's son Alan, and Debbie's son Bob.

Thanks to Mary Linda for donating this photograph along with several others from this party, and to Pessa **Brody**, Bob **Freeman**, and Barbara **Bernstein** for help with identification.

**The Archives needs your photographs!** Send your photos (with identifications of who, what, when, where) of "The Way We Were" to archives@jewishknoxville.org or contact the archivist at (865) 690-6343.



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